

HOKOWHITU SCHOOL

Newsletter

Friday 25th September 2026



Upcoming Events

12 th October	Term 4 Begins
22 nd October	Year 4 Sleepover & Ngā Manu
27 nd October	Board Meeting
5 th November	School Athletics Day - Year 4-6
26 th November	Ross Orientation for Year 6 Students
1 st December	Fundamentals - Year 1-3 Board Meeting
8 th December	Christmas Carnival & Prizegiving
16 th December	Term 4 Ends

Gifted soccer boots

We have kindly been gifted two pairs of second hand soccer boots:

Yellow/Black pair - Sz US12 (UK11)

Blue Pair - Sz US3 (UK2)

If you are in need of a pair for your child, please pop into the office to collect.



Sunhats required for Term 4: Our school policy requires all tamariki to wear our regulation navy blue bucket sunhat during Terms 1 and 4. The New Zealand sun can be very fierce, and sunburn is both uncomfortable and dangerous. Now is the time to dig through the drawers at home and make sure your child has their sunhat ready to go for the start of next term! Sunhats can be purchased at the school office or kindo.



Update from the Principal

Kia ora koutou,



Wow! That is Term 3 done and dusted! It has been a fantastic term with so much going on across our kura.

We finished the term on a high with a teacher vs student tug-of-war, which was voted for by all the students who earned STRIVE vouchers this term for our end-of-term celebration. This ended in a five all draw. I am putting the teachers on a gym programme over the holidays to be ready for the next challenge!

Today, we had a wonderful showcase assembly where our Kapa Haka, Choir, Ukulele, and Dance groups performed. What a talented and skilful bunch of tamariki we have! Huge thank you to our wonderful staff that have put time into these students over the year.

Good Luck to Our Chess Team! Our chess team is on their way to the National Championships in Auckland this weekend. *Ka mau te wehi* to Rory, Jamie, Jaxxon, and Quinn! Safe travels and have an awesome time, we are all so proud of you.

Staff Update We say a temporary goodbye to Mrs Mikkelson for Term 4. Thank you for all your hard work across the school supporting our ākonga and releasing our teachers. You are a valued member of our kura and we will miss you!

We also extend a warm welcome to Whaea Tara, who will be joining us at the start of Term 4 until the end of the year. She will be working alongside Mrs Hawkins in Rūma Toru with our eight Cohort 7 New Entrant students who are starting next term.

Term 4 Sports teams We have a massive number of students signed up for Term 4 sports! This term, Hokowhitu School will be represented by 10 summer soccer teams, 7 summer hockey teams, 2 netball teams, and 1 touch team. A huge thank you to all the parents who have stepped up to coach or manage a team, we appreciate your support and simply could not offer these opportunities without your commitment. We are still short a couple of managers across both hockey and soccer. Please note that managers do not necessarily need to run practices, the primary role is simply organising the team at the games and managing subs. If you are able to help out, please contact Carlee Hodge at c.hodge@hokowhitu.school.nz.

Important Reminders

- **Date Change – Christmas Carnival & Prizegiving:** Please mark in your calendars that our end-of-year Christmas Carnival and Prizegiving is now on **Tuesday 8th December**.
- **Calendar Art Orders:** A reminder that Calendar Art will be available for viewing and ordering in the first two weeks of Term 4. Every child has created a special artwork featuring their name and age—these make fantastic keepsakes and Christmas gifts! Orders close at the end of Week 2 (**Friday 23rd October**).

Have a wonderful, safe, and restful break with your tamariki. We look forward to seeing everyone back refreshed for Term 4!

Ngā mihi nui,

Reece Hawkins
Tumuaki / Principal



STUDENTS v TEACHERS TUG OF WAR!

Yesterday, September 24th, the whole school gathered on the field for an epic tug-of-war competition—the clear favorite for our end-of-term activity! It was a lot of fun as each kete took turns battling it out against the teachers in a series of extremely close matches.

By Aaryan and Charlie



SONIC BOOM WINNERS

In today's assembly, we drew two winners for a ticket to the upcoming Sonic Boom Concert in Palmerston North. So many students entered, and excitement was high for the draw! Congratulations to our two ticket winners, we hope you have a really great time! A huge thank you to The Sound Workshop for the generous donation of two tickets.





ATAWHAI AWARDS

At this morning's assembly the following people were recognised for showing atawhai (kindness) towards others.

TKW: Maisie - You are a warm and caring member of our classroom who always looks out for others. You are always willing to take on responsibilities and look to be helpful when you can. This is appreciated. You have grown in confidence and are a fantastic role model to other children. Your gentle kind nature is demonstrated in many different ways. Thank you Maisie for showing such kindness. Ka rawe!

TKP: Bentley - We appreciate you in Te Kete Pounamu because you are very aware of the feelings of other ākonga. You notify kaiako if someone is feeling down and do your best to provide them with support. When someone in our class leaves something behind like a lunch box or a page of mahi, you ensure that it gets back to them. We love how you led our whānau class in the Life Education bus with Tim. You showed us how to ask Tim if he was OK, and if he was alright? You also asked Tim if there was anything you could do for him. We are excited to see that you are now putting this into practise in the classroom. Ka mau te wehi Bentley!

TKM: Cyrus - Cyrus you consistently demonstrates exceptional character through his kind and caring nature, always taking the time to truly listen to those around him. Dependable and focused, he takes pride in getting his work done efficiently while maintaining an approachable, positive attitude. His polite demeanor and impeccable manners make him a thoughtful classmate in Te Kete Manawa. Thank you for showing atawhai.

TKA: Liana - Liana shows initiative and maturity. She is supportive towards her peers and always has a friendly smile. Liana often volunteers to help others if she sees a need. Being a reliable leader and a supportive friend makes her a role model in the kete.

TKT: Edward - Edward is a fantastic role model in our kete who exemplifies kindness, warmth, and a wonderful sense of humour. Always quick with a smile, he knows how to enjoy a joke and take one in good spirits, while always remaining thoughtful and knowing exactly when to balance fun with focus. Edward shows genuine care and respect toward both his peers and teachers, making everyone around him feel valued and included. Thank you, Edward, for your kindness, humor, and the positive energy you bring to our kete every day!



Achievement Awards

Te Kete Wakahuia

Saint - For being a kind member of our classroom. Ka rawe.

Galaxie - For showing kaitiakitanga towards our classroom. He whetū koe.

Bella - For having great ideas during writing. Ka pai.

Honatana - For trying hard to think of ideas at writing time. Ka rawe.

Maraea - For carefully looking and listening during handwriting time. Great formation of letters!

Elijah - It is wonderful to see you following our school routines and really stepping up to meet these. Ka pai!

Te Awatea - You are an amazing learner who listens to and follows instructions. Tino pai rawa!

Leia - WOW you notice so many patterns in our learning activities! You are a superstar.

What a busy and fun term we have had in Te Kete Waka huia. Have a lovely break and see you after the holidays with your sunhats!

Te Kete Pounamu

What a fantastic term we have had in Te Kete Pounamu! We hope you all have a fantastic holiday break with you whānau. See you in term 4!

Nia - Thank you for being such an awesome role model in TKP - all the very best at your new school in Auckland!

Have a
Fun-Filled
Holiday

Te Kete Manawa

Te Kete Manawa thank you all for such a wonderful term! Your hard work, bright enthusiasm, and big smiles made every day awesome. Have an amazing, well-deserved break, and make sure to get plenty of rest and fun!

Te Kete Aronui

Thank you all for an amazing term! You should all be very proud of everything you have achieved. Have a fantastic break, enjoy a well-earned rest, We look forward to seeing you back for another busy term after the holidays!

Te Kete Tangaroa

Thank you all for a fantastic term! From all the action with Ricoh tournament, Mathex, orienteering, to hearing everyone's awesome speeches, it has been an incredible term.

Have an amazing, well deserved break, enjoy plenty of rest and fun, and enjoy the holidays! We look forward to seeing you back for another exciting term ahead!



Important Information for Parents & Guardians

- Please respect the privacy of all ākonga when taking photos or videos.
- Please do not publish any photos containing other children from any school event.
- Please look out for kete newsletters - these include additional specific dates/events for that kete.

Ways to Contact The Office When Your Child Will Be Late Or Absent



Email

office@hokowhitu.school.nz



Phone

(You can also leave a voicemail)
06 357 9667 School cell phone
(txt or phone) - 027 357 9021



App

See how to download the App here:
<https://hokowhituprimary.apps.school.nz/>

Sport **BADMINTON**

Badminton is now finished for the season, and they had their prizegiving last week. All Hokowhitu teams did well and had a great season!

Zac L filled in as a reserve for Hokowhitu and other school teams as a Year 2 in a Year 4 to 6 tournament. Well done Zac!



Badminton Manawatū are now welcoming entries for our final tournament of the year – Manawatū ABCD Championships 2026 [2]!

As usual we welcome all ages and abilities from across the region.

Manawatū ABCD Championships 2026 [2]

Sat 31 Oct & Sun 1 Nov

CET Arena 4 (B&M Centre)

Singles, Doubles & Mixed events in each grade (A,B,C,D)

Singles & Doubles events on Saturday

Mixed Doubles on Sunday (plus any remaining matches from Saturday)

\$40 for your first event, \$75 for two events, and \$100 for all three events

Entry is online only:

<https://bnz.tournamentsoftware.com/tournament/f99902c7-0a88-440f-b9f2-13259c0934ca>

Entries close Fri 16 Oct, 11:59pm



Term 1 Wed 4/2-Thur 2/4	Term 2 Mon 20/4-Fri 3/7	Term 3 Mon 20/7-Fri 25/9	Term 4 Mon 12/10-Fri 16/12
Sports you will register through kindo to play for Hokowhitu School - https://shop.kindo.co.nz/ *Uniform hire is required for all sports except Netball			
Badminton - yrs 5 and 6 (Registration - kindo beginning term 1) Summer Hockey - All yrs (Registration - kindo beginning term 1) Netball - All yrs (Registration -kindo beginning term 1) T-Ball - yrs 1-3 (This team is continued from Term 4) *All Term 1 Sports registration's are now closed	Basketball - yrs 3-6 (Registration - kindo term 1) Winter hockey - All yrs (Registration - kindo term 1) Table Tennis - yrs 4-6 (Registration - kindo term 1) *All Term 2 Sports registration's are now CLOSED	Badminton - yrs 4-6 (Registration - kindo term 2) - Winter hockey carry on this term for two weeks.	T-Ball - yrs 1-3 (Registrations Now Closed) Summer hockey - All yrs (Registrations Now Closed) Summer soccer - All yrs (Registrations Now Closed) Volleyball - yrs 4-6 (Registrations Now Closed) Futsal - yrs 3-6 (Registrations Now Closed) Netball - All yrs (Registrations now Closed) Touch - All yrs (Registrations now Closed)
Sports available through outside agencies See this link for ALL sports in the Manawatu - https://www.sportmanawatu.org.nz/findasport			
Junior rugby https://www.manawaturugby.co.nz/community-rugby-1/junior-1 Winter soccer https://www.centralfootball.co.nz/competitions-1/fixturesresults-1/manawatu-2			Tennis https://clubspark.kiwi/TennisManawatu Cricket www.sporty.co.nz/mca

If you have any sports queries please email our Sports Coordinator c.hodge@hokowhitu.school.nz



Community Notices



A CONCERT EXPERIENCE FOR FAMILIES



PALMY VENUE + EVENTS
6 OCTOBER, 4PM

QUEEN • KATSEYE • SHAKIRA • KPOP DEMON HUNTERS
MICHAEL JACKSON • BRUNO MARS & ROSE • TAYLOR SWIFT



HOLIDAY PROGRAMMES

OCT 2026

DAY 1

Monday 5th October 2026

8.30am- 3.00pm (4.00pm for late collections for
an extra \$10.00 per day)

DAY 2

Tuesday 6th October 2026

8.30am- 3.00pm (4.00pm for late collections for
an extra \$10.00 per day)

DAY 3

Wednesday 7th October 2026

8.30am- 3.00pm (4.00pm for late collections for
an extra \$10.00 per day)

REGISTER

netballmanawatu.org.nz

Netball
Manawatu



FREE COME & TRY DAY

SUPPORTED BY: **PALMY**
PALMY PALMERSTON NORTH

SATURDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER

CENTRAL ENERGY TRUST ARENA, PALMERSTON NORTH

10AM - 2PM

[HTTPS://WWW.NFLFLAG.COM.AU/PALMERSTONNORTHCOME](https://www.nflflag.com.au/palmerstonnorthcomeandtry)

ANDTRY

MALES AND FEMALES OF ALL AGES WELCOME

aPlus School Holiday Programme 2026



Hokowhitu School

227 Albert Street, Palmerston North



School Holidays:

28 September – 9 October 2026



Book now: aplus.kiwi.nz



WINZ subsidies available

SMALL FRY

Ages 5–6 • from \$32 per day

28 SEP **Spring Lambs** \$32
lamb games, crafts & stories 

29 SEP **Rainbow Rangers** \$32
colour mixing & rainbow fun 

30 SEP **Make it Yellow** \$32
sunshine sorting & yellow play 

1 OCT **Round and Round** \$32
circles, spinning & rolling fun 

2 OCT **Mix and Match** \$32
matching, monsters & easy drawing 

5 OCT **Born to be an Owl** \$32
owl matching & crafts 

6 OCT **How Many Ants** \$32
counting, observation & teamwork 

7 OCT **The Golden Fish** \$32
underwater art & games 

8 OCT **aPlus Festival of Spring** \$40
festival games, magician & ice cream truck 

9 OCT **Creative Balloons** \$32
balloon games, challenges & art 

HOLIDAY FUN

7 years & up • from \$35 per day

28 SEP **Tops and Tails** \$35
animal play, movement & art 

29 SEP **The Blue Duck** \$35
discover the who 

30 SEP **What I Didn't Do Today** \$35
an upside-down imagination day 

1 OCT **The Twist and Grow Tree** \$35
nature, growth & creation 

2 OCT **Wooden Wonders** \$35
build, balance & invent 

5 OCT **Crazy T-Shirt Day** \$35
decorate and design 

6 OCT **Bats in the Cave** \$35
cave fun, art & stories 

7 OCT **Gecko or Skink** \$35
3D lizards & native species 

8 OCT **aPlus Festival of Spring** \$40
festival games, magician & ice cream truck 

9 OCT **Landscapes** \$35
paper scenes, weather & places 

EXPLORERS

7 years & up • from \$38 per day

28 SEP **Steampunk** \$38
gears, goggles & inventions 

29 SEP **Plan, Shop, Cook to Win** \$45
cooking teamwork challenge 

30 SEP **Star Wars** \$38
lightsabres & galactic creativity 

1 OCT **Movies – Events Cinema** \$45
snacks and a movie 

2 OCT **Purrfect** \$38
cats, art, treats & storytime 

5 OCT **Flamingo Flamenco** \$38
music, movement & pink fun 

6 OCT **Hector the Dolphin** \$38
rare NZ dolphin discovery 

7 OCT **Mystery Trip** \$48
a surprise adventure 

8 OCT **aPlus Festival of Spring** \$40
festival games, magician & ice cream truck 

9 OCT **Puppet Parade** \$38
make puppets & perform 

Colour Run

7 OCTOBER 2026
10-12PM

SKOGLUND PARK,
PALMERSTON NORTH
AGES 5-8, 10-11AM
AGES 9-12, 11-12PM

FREE EVENT
COME ON DOWN
TO GET ACTIVE
AND HAVE FUN



SCHOOL HOLIDAY MAGIC

Andre Vegas FAMILY FUN MAGIC & ILLUSION SHOW

EVERY TICKET
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ONE
SHOW
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MON. 5TH OCTOBER // 6PM

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